

Middletown Public Schools

Middletown, Rhode Island

Thursday, May 15, 2014

Michael S. Pinto Conference Room

Members Present:

Theresa Spengler, Chairman

Kellie DiPalma Simeone, Vice-Chairman

Liana Fenton

Paul Mankofsky

William O'Connell

Also Present:

Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Superintendent of Schools

Linda Savastano, Assistant Superintendent

Raquel Pellerin, Business Manager

Edward Collins, Director of Facilities

The School Committee Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. All School Committee members were present. Administrative staff

members present were Gail Abromitis, Michael Mancieri, Andy Longo, Michelle Fonseca, Stephen Ponte, and Donna Chelf.

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) William O'Connell. To move "Proclamations and Awards" up on the agenda. Unanimous vote.

PROCLAMATIONS/AWARDS

- Teacher of the Year – Mrs. Anne Coogan was recognized as the 2014 Middletown Teacher of the Year.**
- Retirees Recognition – Retirees were recognized. The total number of years totaled 205.**
- Student Awards – Student awards were presented for the Cyberpatriot Program and All-State Band and Chorus Ensembles.**
- National Teacher Day and Volunteer Week were recognized.**

SPOTLIGHT ON TEACHING AND LEARNING

"Project Ten 80 Student Racing Challenge"

Gail Sullivan-McCune introduced "The Squeelers", a group of Middletown High School students who participated in the Project Ten 80 Challenge. The mission of the program is to "Provide a solid foundation in mechanical and industrial engineering principles, to

foster within the students their innate curiosity and to build analytical reasoning, communication and problem-solving skills”. The engineering projects included the RoboRaCeCar, PIT NOW! Renewable Energy, Aerodynamics Design, and a Creative Engineering Project. The race was in Waltham, MA. Students could be part of the

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racing team, pit crew, designers, engineers, or marketing. Mrs. Spengler suggested taking this presentation to the Town Council.

STUDENT ACTIVITIES

No “Student Activities” for May 15, 2015.

INFORMATION

Mrs. Kraeger noted the following items of information:

•May 22nd at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall, “Empowering Middletown Parents...Marijuana and Teens: The Medical Perspective”

- List of Senior Class events
- Dedication of Forest Avenue Peace Garden in honor of Kerri James Harrison
- Letter from Senator Whitehouse regarding the Impact Aid visit
- Letter from Executive Director of NAFIS regarding the Impact Aid visit

CORRESPONDENCE

No “Correspondence” for May 15, 2014.

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) William O’Connell. To approve the Consent Agenda. Unanimous vote.

- Approval of Minutes of April 10, 2014 School Committee Meeting
- Approval of Quarterly Report
- Approval of the following vouchers:

Vouchers for April 2014

Voucher Number	Date Total
1350	4/1/2014 \$335,101.04
1349	4/1/2014 \$20,494.91

1363	4/8/2014 \$4,491.20
1362	4/8/2014 \$12,020.70
1361	4/8/2014 \$640.00
1360	4/8/2014 \$249,453.08
1364	4/10/2014 \$43,216.59
1368	4/15/2014 \$602.50
1367	4/15/2014 \$2,430.30
1366	4/15/2014 \$1,160.00
1365	4/15/2014 \$89.78
1379	4/16/2014 \$1,875.00
1383	4/17/2014 \$1,410.43
1382	4/17/2014 \$4,435.83
1381	4/17/2014 \$92,395.17
1380	4/17/2014 \$256,007.28
1390	4/24/2014 \$68,664.00
1389	4/24/2014 \$651.01
1388	4/24/2014 \$11,620.00
1387	4/24/2014 \$163,653.97
1386	4/24/2014 \$1,300.00
1385	4/24/2014 \$1,532.65
1384	4/24/2014 \$1,912.20
1391	4/25/2014 \$135,827.00
1400	4/30/2014 \$195,479.94
Total	\$1,606,464.58

SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION ON PERSONNEL

**RESIGNATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF RETIREMENT EFFECTIVE
MAY 12, 2014**

Nancy Ashmore Speech Pathologist

**VOLUNTEER COACHING APPOINTMENT EFFECTIVE MARCH 31,
2015**

Barry Clark Volunteer Golf Coach

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ACTION ITEMS

FOOD SERVICE CONTRACT

**MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) William O'Connell. That the
School Committee award the School Lunch Contract to Chartwells.
Unanimous vote.**

**This has been approved by all districts in East Bay as well as the
Rhode Island Department of Education. Each district has their own
projected profit.**

SCHOOL CALENDAR REVISION

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve the revised 2014-2015 school calendar. Unanimous vote.

HOME SCHOOLING

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve Home Schooling 13-14-07 and 13-14-08. Unanimous vote.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS CURRICULUM

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve the English Language Arts Curriculum. Unanimous vote.

CROSS COUNTRY CO-OP TEAM

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee approve the Cross Country Coop Team, funded by private donations. Unanimous vote.

The Athletic Director approached the Superintendent with the idea of a co-operative team. This needs to be approved by RIIL. It is not in

the school budget. There is currently \$2,000 remaining from the funds raised for last year's cross country team.

WIRELESS CONTRACT

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee award the Wireless Contract to Jacobs Technology, Inc. Unanimous vote.

BID AWARD

MOTION: 1) , 2) . That the School Committee award the High School Roofing Bid to _____, pending funding by Town.

This motion is being tabled until the June 19, 2014 School Committee Meeting.

REOPEN EARLY RETIREMENT

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee reopen Early Retirement until June 18, 2014. Unanimous vote.

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OLD BUSINESS

- DISTRICT ART SHOW** – There was a good turnout for the District Art Show held at the Elks in Newport.

NEW BUSINESS

No “New Business” for May 15, 2014.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORTS

- CURRICULUM** – Mrs. Savastano discussed the English Language Arts Curriculum earlier in the meeting.
- FINANCIAL** – Ms. Pellerin reported that Middletown is projected to lose another \$60K in State Aid. The public hearings will be held on May 21st and May 28th at Town Hall at 6:00 p.m. At the meeting on May 28th, the Council will vote on the budget. There will be a meeting on June 12th at 3:00 p.m. to finalize the budget and address any disciplinary action that may have resulted from the Senior Prom.
- FACILITIES** – Mr. Collins reported that both gas and electric

contracts run out this summer. We will be locking in at \$5.60 for gas tomorrow. National Grid is at \$9.00. The electricity market is currently not favorable.

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. That the School Committee receive the Superintendent's Reports. Unanimous vote.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

There were no "Reports of Officers and Committees" for May 15, 2014.

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. To go into Executive Session 42-46-5 (a) 1,2,5,8,9 at 8:37 p.m. Unanimous vote.

MOTION: 1) Kellie DiPalma Simeone, 2) Liana Fenton. To seal minutes of Executive Session. Unanimous vote.

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MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) Kellie DiPalma Simeone. To approve the terms of the Business Plan, “A Plan For Shared Facility Services Management”. Motion passed 4 to 1.

Yay: Theresa Spengler Nay: Paul Mankofsky
Kellie DiPalma Simeone
Liana Fenton
William O’Connell

ADJOURN FROM MEETING

MOTION: 1) Liana Fenton, 2) Kellie DiPalma Simeone. To adjourn from the School Committee Meeting at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Rosemarie K. Kraeger, Clerk